

2020

News & Views



In the Heart of the Village

VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

*The
Season
of
Lent*



*The LORD kills
and brings to life;
he brings down to
Sheol and raises
up. (1 Sam. 2:6)*

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LENTEN MESSAGE

Dear friends,

We are preparing for the season of Great Lent – the forty days before the celebration of Our Lord's glorious Resurrection at Easter. Lent begins here in the winter when the earth is frozen and dead and culminates in the springtime. In fact, the English word Lent originally meant 'spring.'

Though often thought of as a dark and gloomy time because of its penitential spirit, Lent is in fact a joyous and holy season set apart for the cultivation and blossoming of the fruit of the Spirit within us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Gal. 5:22). As we know from horticulture, new growth can only come if the old is pruned away. That is why the Lenten spring involves self-examination and repentance.

Lent begins with a call to repentance on Ash Wednesday; I invite you to join us at St. James for our Ash Wednesday services on 26 February at noon and 7:00pm. The origins of Ash Wednesday lie deep in the Bible, especially in all those Old Testament passages that speak of 'repenting in dust and ashes.' And so, we receive ashes on our foreheads as a sign of this repentance.

But there is deeper significance in the tradition of ashes – one that is brought to light in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection.

In a forest, the ash that is left after a fire is not just the dark remains of destruction, but a fertilizer – a source of new growth and new life. Out of the ash of death, new things bloom from the earth. It is a beautiful reversal born of the wisdom of our Creator and Sustainer.

And so, the cross of ash upon our foreheads symbolizes not just the death of the old growth of sin, but through that, our resurrection to newness of life and righteousness in Christ.

It is to this end that all of our extra prayers, disciplines and fasting are directed over the 40 days of Lent – certainly not that we should feel proud of our achievements in them, but that we may become more keenly aware of our complete dependence, from cradle to grave, on the Lord of life and death.

In the words of a poem for Ash Wednesday by Malcolm Guite, 'Hope could rise from ashes even now / beginning with this sign upon your brow.'

I invite all of you to the observance of a holy Lent, so that at Easter, we may all be renewed in the hope of our risen Lord Jesus Christ.

Peace,

Chris

AL LAWRIE – GLASS ARTIST

One of the highlights of our successful roof fundraising campaign was the cross suncatchers, with a piece of historic St. James stained glass in the centre. When the lancet windows in the bell tower were replaced due to deterioration, the old glass was saved and pieces were sold as silent auction items. One purchaser of several pieces was the late Peter Elms, local Caledon East historian. He actually kept the glass in his local history file boxes. They came to light when Diane Allengame began processing Peter's records prior to sending them to the Archives at PAMA in Brampton. What serendipity to find these historic pieces after so many years!



Al Lawrie agreed to use this historic glass as a centre medallion in a cross he was designing of contemporary glass. These were to be used to recognise the extraordinary gifts from the parish to support the renovation/restoration of the roof and other exterior building elements of St. James. Each cross would be blessed in the church and given to donors who made significant financial gifts. Over 30 crosses have been made, blessed and given to members of the parish!

Needless to say, this was not the first glass work of art designed by Al. He has been working with glass for about 17 years. "I'm a bit of an artist and I find, unlike paintings, glass is a changing medium but it doesn't fade. The colours constantly change when hung in a window due to light levels and seasons. Someone told me once I'm 'painting with glass'."

Coloured glass pieces fill a number of Al and Gillian's windows at home. The largest piece he's made is 34" x 25" - including one rendition, inspired by a photo, of a flower bed of Impatiens in their garden. Al tried counting the pieces but there are too many (some are tiny) -- his estimate is at least 650.

As all artists, Al has a sharp eye for colour. While working on a lamp shade, he was attempting to picture Dogwood branches on a backdrop of a red/dark sunset. Having underestimated the pink colours he'd need for the petals, Al began a search for them throughout the GTA, London, Ontario and then Vancouver (ok, the Lawries were going there for personal reasons as well!). He ended up finding the glass in a little town in Western New York. It took four years before that lamp shade was finished and a lot of perseverance!

Used to such complex projects, producing more than 30 of the same design didn't exactly fuel Al's creative juices, but he says "I am so pleased that they contributed to our very successful roof fund. Gill and I love St James; it's become a big part of our lives. I've been practising my bagpipes in the sanctuary when there's no one else in the building and it's totally silent. I leave the lights off; I just enjoy the peace and the beauty of those windows. I have the place all to myself. I kneel down and pray and feel totally close to God. It's a lovely place."

Thank you, Al, for the countless hours spent making the suncatchers, and thank you to everyone who donated to our successful fundraising event. You can now enjoy Al's artistry in your historic glass memento of St. James every day.

News and Views is a newsletter for the people of St. James Church. It is published four times per year – Lent, Pentecost, Fall and Advent.

For submissions in the newsletter:

Any member of the Parish of St. James may submit an article for the newsletter.

To do so, email newsletter@stjamescaledoneast.ca or leave your articles in writing or on a CD in the newsletter box at the church office. Articles are based on space availability and relevance.

Thank you for your submission.

Donna Davies, Editor

Next Newsletter: Pentecost 2020

Deadline: May 17, 2020

Publication: May 31, 2010

Bible Adventure Club

On Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

At St. James Church

Join us in our club room downstairs for
bible stories, games, crafts, and more
A wonderful opportunity for children
Ages 4-11



For more info **Amy Dow**, Children & Youth Ministry
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OUTREACH UPDATE

The Outreach Committee has been quite busy in 2019. As mentioned, we continued with Choices and The Bridge for our Advent and Lent Trees, but also added the Elizabeth Fry Society. We are very grateful to the people of St. James for all their support with these two events. We also donated to the Ugandan Widows' Project and Water Ambassadors Canada through our Outreach Program.

The Outreach team is working on a new initiative to provide ongoing support throughout the year to each of our charities at St. James. You will hear more about this new initiative over the coming weeks.

The various organizations we support have expressed their appreciation to us. We thought you might be interested in some of their comments.

“Thank you for reaching out. We had an overwhelming number of gifts for our residents, which was great. I can let you know that they truly appreciated the gifts. We took some photos of them opening up their gifts on Christmas day. I will be sharing them on our social media shortly. “

Choices Youth Shelter, Orangeville





“We want to thank all at St. James church community for the wonderful gifts for our women at Ellen House. We had our holiday event last night and the women were so grateful and appreciative of all that you all have done for them! Our agency wishes you all the very happy and safe holiday. May God bless you all and your families. “

Elizabeth Fry Society

“On behalf of the men whom The BRIDGE serves, I would like to thank the members of St. James Church Caledon East for the Christmas gift bags received for our men (members) last month. They were distributed at our Christmas dinner. The dinner was a time of celebration. A time to just be and have some fun with each other. Receiving the gift bags reaffirmed that they are thought of by others and that their circle of care goes far beyond The BRIDGE office. Thank you for making our men feel special!!!”

The Bridge Prison Ministry



“Thank you so much for your congregations very generous donation towards the Widows' Garden Project. We just got word

that this year's team has successfully met with the first 29 widows in the new area, Rubingo.

As I write they are moving to another new area.

You, or anyone else who's interested, would be more than welcome to join the team who goes in Oct 2020!”

Ugandan Widows' Project

“On behalf of Water Ambassadors Canada, thank you for your recent donation for this very important ministry of providing clean water to those without in the developing world. Our latest team was recently in Ecuador installing chlorination systems in a couple of remote communities outside of Quito. Each system provided safe drinking water to hundreds of people. Your donation allows us to keep building and repairing wells and installing chlorination and filtration systems”

Water Ambassadors Canada\

ST. JAMES VILLAGE HALL

**THINKING OF HOLDING A MEETING, BIRTHDAY PARTY, SHOWER,
FUNERAL OR WEDDING RECEPTION?**

WHY NOT CONSIDER HOLDING IT IN OUR VILLAGE HALL.

**THE RATES ARE REASONABLE AND OUR KITCHEN HAS ALL OF THE
AMENITIES.**





COMMUNITY PANCAKE SUPPER

Tuesday, February 25, 2020

5:00 to 7:00 pm

St. James Parish Hall



Pancakes, butter & syrup

Sausages

Ice cream sundaes

Tea, coffee & juice

Free will offering*

Join us with your family and friends!

*Your donation will support our Outreach work in Caledon.

WARDENS' REPORT

It has been a busy time for your Wardens and the Treasurer getting ready for the Auditors to begin their work in January. We can report that we managed to make our financial statements for 2019 available to our auditors BDO on schedule this year! Todd was able to complete the package at the end of January with the last piece of data which was the investment portfolio results from the Diocese. BDO came in to the church one day in January to carry out their document audit, and there were no issues from that exercise. We await BDO's draft Financial Statements in the near future.

Last year Todd arranged for the Fire Chief of Caledon to perform a fire safety audit on our buildings. There were a small number of improvements listed from the audit which have to be completed by 2 March 2020, mainly to do with providing emergency bells and lighting in the church basement, and emergency exits from the church itself. These are now physically complete and all that is left is the various inspections by the relevant authorities. This should be complete by the last week in February.

The roof campaign was an amazing success and your donations totaled some \$36,000! So, with the monies already donated to the roof fund we are well on the way to meeting the quoted costs. The Renovation Guys have been unfortunately beaten by the weather in November last year, but we hope to see them early in the Spring!



It was a joy to have Bishop Jenny here on the 2nd of February. She gave another amazing sermon, and I am sure we all were pleased to have Father Chris formally installed as our Incumbent.

As always, we are pleased to serve as your Wardens,
David and Claire

Editor's Note:

The Elizabeth Fry Society sent this anonymous note from one of their clients on behalf of all the women of Ellen House as a thank you for our gifts.

I thought you would love to read it. It is so nice to know how and where our gifts are received.

My name is "L", I've been in jail for many years, I have done bad things in my life and have no family to support me. I have spent most of my life in foster care and moved all over Canada, I have not been in a stable home in my entire life. I have spent most of my life in jail and know nothing else. Now I'm a resident of Ellen House. I'm trying to get my life back together and support myself. Ellen House support others like me, who need the help to make it in this world. I wanted to let you all know my story, as there are many women like me who have struggled. It is hard out there, with nothing!

Thank you, wonderful children of God, we are all grateful for all the gifts you have provided to us. We have spent much time inside; we have made mistakes and now we have been trying to change our ways. Like most of us here, we have come from abusive families, poverty, struggles and have yet to succeed in society, not that we have not stopped trying, but we will have to do our best. We appreciate all that you have done for us. Please support your families and friends with love and compassion as you have done for us.

Thank you all from the bottom of our hearts

God bless, wishing all a Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year!!!

Residents of Ellen House- Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel/Halton

What if you woke
UP **TODAY**
with only the things
that you
thanked
God for
yesterday?
<http://www.annetapowellonline.com>

*Good Friday, 2019.
After a moving Good
Friday musical cantata
at Caledon East
United Church
performed by both our
choirs, the cross was
carried to St. James*





Tuesday, February 25 – 5-7pm Community Pancake Supper

Wednesday, February 26 – Ash Wednesday Service
noon - Holy Communion with imposition of Ashes
7pm – Evening Prayer with imposition of Ashes.

Sunday, March 1-St. David's Day 9am BCP Holy Communion 10:30am - Sabbath Rest

Friday, March 6 - World Day of Prayer

Sunday, March 8 – Rev. Dr. John Stephenson
9am BCP Holy Communion 10:30am BAS Holy Communion

Sunday, March 15 – St. Patrick's Day – Howard Jones
9am BCP Holy Communion 10:30am BAS Holy Communion

Sunday, March 22 – 9am BCP Holy Communion
10:30am Morning Prayer

Sunday, March 29 – 9 and 10:30am BCP Holy Communion

Sunday, April 5 – Palm Sunday 9 a.m. BCP Holy Communion
10:30am BAS Holy Communion with Palm Procession

Thursday, April 9 – 7pm Holy Communion

Friday, April 10 – Good Friday 10am Joint Service Caledon East United at St. James- Cantata & Stations of the Cross

Saturday, April 11 – 5pm – Joint Service with Christ Church Bolton – BAS Easter Vigil- Baptism & Holy Communion

Sunday, April 12 – Easter Sunday 9 and 10:30am –Services

Sunday, April 19 – 9am BCP Holy Communion
10:30am – BAS Holy Communion



Please join us for our Easter Services



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St. James Church
In the Heart of the Village

